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## SUMMARY

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3.	Comment on recent traffic from Sinkiang into northern Pakistan and Kashmir (page 4).
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## 2. Comment on current fighting in Indochina:

Coordinated Viet Minh attacks, beginning about 1 December, have continued against the southern and western edges of the French defense perimeter in Tonkin. Fragmentary and ambiguous French communiques maintain that the Viet Minh has been repulsed everywhere,

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France rejects Tunisian	petition; appoints new Resident General:
	The French Cabinet has rejected the Tunisian petition for a greater share in government, but has proposed to prolong the term of the Tunisian Grand Council and to establish a French-
Tunisian commission whi sentative legislature.	ch would consider the formation of a truly repre-
replace the present Resid	The Cabinet has also selected Pierre Voizard to lent General.
not discuss the Moroccan Cabinet's action will be s popular and dictatorial Re	Comment: The French Cabinet delayed denying it was certain that the UN General Assembly would issue. Nationalist disappointment over the French omewhat lessened by the replacement of the unesident General Perillier. Although demonstrations on are probable, no serious disorders are likely at
	EASTERN EUROPE
American Ambassador in	Prague concerned over safety of Western diplomats
Timer real rimbassacor in	
	Ambassador Briggs in Prague, commenting upon the recent arrest of two British Embassy em-
	ployees, points out that the personal safety of

all Western diplomats in Czechoslovakia may now be in jeopardy. It is not known whether the Czech charges are true or false, since the British Ambassador in Prague has refused to discuss the case with his American colleague and the British Government has remained silent.

Czech propaganda has accused the United States of instigating the plot and financing the operation out of funds appropriated in the Mutual Security Act.

Comment: The Czechs have, as a result of this incident, a valuable propaganda weapon to employ against the Mutual Security Act. In any case, the affair provides a ready pretext for possible restrictive actions against Western diplomats in Czechoslovakia.

## WESTERN EUROPE

7.	West Germans balk at size of financial contribution for European defense:
25X1A	Chancellor Adenauer told the Allied High Commissioners on 14 December that Germany will probably be unable to contribute the full amount assigned by NATO as the German share of Western defense costs. He alleges that a constitutional amendment per- mitting the federal government to tax sources of revenue which the state governments now tax would be required in order to raise this sum. Adenauer doubts that Parliament would pass such an amendment.
	anticipate great difficulty in getting the West Germans to accept their 3.2 billion dollar share of European defense costs, but believe that additional revenue can be raised by a revision of the income tax structure. The coalition parties are loath to raise taxes in the upper-income brackets, however, and the Chancellor probably hopes that a considerable part of the German contribution can be financed by internal or foreign loans.
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9.	Italian Budget Minister's financial policies at variance with American defense objectives:
	derense objectives.
25X1/	The US Embassy in Rome evaluates Budget
	Minister Pella's recent speech on Italian financial policy as 'conservative, full of old, frequently
	repeated themes, and at variance with the
_	strenuous efforts US officials are now making to bring about a bold Italian
	defense program with the help of US aid."
	Pella said that Italy must make a defense effort
	compatible with "its need to safeguard civilian investments and consumption,
	increase employment, protect the value of the lira, and continue social progress."
	Comment: Pella's fear of inflation has obstructed expansion of the Italian defense effort. In his "defense of the lira,"
	the detent expansion of the Italian defense effort. In his defense of the life,
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•	ZUNTA

Pella, who exercises almost absolute control over the Italian budget, has the full support of Premier de Gasperi and President Einaudi. Italian defense expenditures are only 24 percent of the total budget.

The need for substantial appropriations to offset the recent serious flood damage in Italy will reinforce Pella's stand against pressure for a greater defense effort.

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